



**PC 1048 Kevin Murphy ABII
Licensing Officer**

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18 July 2013

Russ Howell
Health Protection Manager
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**Review of Premises Licence K/13/24234 – The Challenge
Arms, Eskdail St, Kettering**

Northants Police would seek to take this opportunity to voice concerns around 'Crime and Disorder' at these premises in light of a review application made recently by the Environmental Health Department at KBC.

In November 2011 we were made aware that a Mr Huseyin OZZENGIN had taken over the business at Eskdail Street Kettering which had been trading as The Beez Neez. On 09th November 2011 the premises were visited by PC 1048 Murphy and PS 1128 Fletcher who found that the premises were trading illegally as the Premises Licence had been formally surrendered by the previous owner. OZZENGIN was present and was instructed to cease all licensable activities pending the grant of a new licence. This instruction was complied with and subsequently rectified by way of transfer of the previous Premises Licence. Ozzengin became the Premises Licence Holder with a Claire Osbourne being specified as the DPS.

In June 2012 an application to vary the licence was made and subsequently withdrawn after police and other representations. This application was re-submitted later the same year when again objections were raised. A subsequent hearing resulted in an extension to the licensed hours being granted allowing them to trade from 0900hrs seven days a week and upholding the view held by police that trading beyond midnight at weekends would not be conducive with the promotion of the licensing objective set around the prevention of crime and disorder.

Since this time Northants Police have attended and recorded the following incidents at the premises:

19 Oct 2012 at 2315hrs inc 534

Females fighting in the car park at the premises, this incident involved a person banned by members of the Kettering Pubwatch group. Attending officers note the presence of several well known nominals and duly arrest a known male for bail offences.

12 Feb 2013 0249hrs inc 29

Police attend in the early hours in answer to complaints from residents about loud music emanating from the premises. Officers report extremely loud music coming from the building and then have to hammer on doors and windows in an attempt to make their presence known. People are visible inside but nobody would answer the door. Some time later Huseyin OZZENGIN came out and identified himself as the owner. Officers report that OZZENGIN smelt strongly of alcohol and was slurring his words. When questioned he began swearing and told police that 'he had nothing to hide'.

18 Mar 2013 0003hrs inc 2

Police attend after report of 20-30 persons fighting at premises, as officers arrive there is still some pushing and shoving going on and evidence of broken glass. Police assist the DPS to remove a large group from the premises and locality.

On 05 Apr 2013 PC 1048 Murphy visited the premises in company with Mrs Alex Gratrix from KBC Environmental Health Department. This was a pre-arranged meeting with Katherine HARPER who had submitted an application to transfer the Premises Licence into her name and also take over as DPS. HARPER was duly advised around both noise and crime and disorder concerns. HARPER gave firm assurances that this was a 'fresh start' for the premises and that OZZENGIN was no longer involved in the business.

27 Apr 2013 2225hrs inc 521

Police officers carrying out Operation Nightsafe patrols in the area of Eskdail Street noted that a number of young persons were present at the entrance door to the premises. Officers report concerns that these youngsters were not being challenged by door-staff for proof of age. It transpired that the premises were hosting an 18th birthday party. Officers went on to advise around possible issues of underage sales and / or consumption of alcohol. It was also noted and reported that OZZENGIN was present and was clearly working at the premises and seemed reluctant to engage with officers.

18 May 2013 2356hrs inc 666

Catherine HARPER requests police attendance and help with customers found to be taking drugs in the toilets at the premises. Threats made to staff but offenders had left the area prior to the arrival of police.

08 Jun 2013 2314hrs inc 708

Police are called to a fight outside the premises. Member of the public reports of a group of around 12 intoxicated males and females present with one offender brandishing a broom handle. Police officers attend and report an argument between friends getting out of hand, all parties advised and no arrests made.

09 Jul 2013 2255hrs inc 743

Police are called to the premises by a distressed female and on arrival find both OZZENGIN and HARPER present and clearly under the influence of alcohol. OZZENGIN is subsequently arrested in relation to an alleged assault on HARPER. Enquiries suggest that both parties are currently in a relationship and that OZZENGIN has continued to run, or at least been heavily involved in running the premises from behind the scenes. Subject to court proceedings, further and more detailed information in relation to this incident may be made available at a panel hearing.

11 Jul 2013 2200hrs inc 652

Report of around 15-20 rowdy males in the car park area at the premises. No officers immediately available – no further calls resulting in no deployment.

Summary

The Challenge Arms has given cause for concern since being taken over by Huseyin OSSENGIN. The nature of the incidents seen to date suggest premises that are being run with little concern for local residents and a blatant disregard for the promotion of the licensing objectives. Promises made by the current Premises Licence Holder and DPS in respect of resolving and preventing further issues appear to have been made merely to avoid enforcement action.

Should this licence not be subject to revocation Northants Police would request the following:

Removal of the current DPS along with a reduction in the terminal hour for all licensable activity. The below listed 'bullet pointed' conditions are also provided for consideration in respect of properly promoting the licensing objectives:

A properly worded and enforceable condition in respect of CCTV
The provision of door-staff
The provision and use of polycarbonate drinking vessels
Staff training / training records
The removal of open drinks containers / vessels from the premises
The provision of a refusals register / incident book
The use of and controls around the use of all outside areas

Yours Sincerely,

Kevin Murphy
PC 1048
Licensing Officer

